

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 07099 110859Z

14

ACTION EA-09

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CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 7099

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, KS

SUBJECT: TRIAL OF LAWYER HAN SUNG-HON

REF: SEOUL 6718 R 290425Z AUG 75

1. LAWYER HAN SUNG-HON WAS SENTENCED TO EIGHTEEN MONTHS IN JAIL SEPTEMBER 11 ON GROUNDS THAT HE HAD WRITTEN AN ESSAY WHICH WAS ADJUDGED TO BE A VIOLATION OF THE ANTI-COMMUNIST LAW BECAUSE IT CRITICIZED THE EXECUTION OF AN ESPIONAGE AGENT IN 1971. HAN HAD UNSUCCESSFULLY CONTENDED THAT HIS ESSAY WAS NOT DIRECTED AT SPECIFIC EXECUTION BUT WAS A GENERAL PHILOSOPHICAL TREATISE ON THE SUBJECT CAPITAL PUNISHMENT. PROSECUTION HAD DEMANDED THREE YEARS IN JAIL FOR HAN.

2. UNDERLYING POLITICAL REASON FOR HAN'S ARREST, TRIAL AND CONVICTION WAS THAT HE HAD BEEN ACTIVE IN LEGAL DEFENSE OF KIM TAE-CHUNG, NCCC-K GENSEC KIM KWAN-SOK AND STUDENTS INVOLVED IN ANTI-GOVERNMENT DEMONSTRATIONS.
SNEIDER

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